

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 ISO-00 SS-14 NSC-05 NSCE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 439
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
STATE

S E C R E T VICTORIA 371
LIMDIS
E.O. 11652: XGDS
TAGS: MARR, MPOL, US, SE
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT RENE AGREES TO VISITS BY U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT

1. SEYCHELLES' PRESIDENT FRANCE ALBERT RENE, ASSURED ME IN JUNE 28 PRIVATE MEETING, WHICH FOLLOWED COURTESY CALL BY COMMANDING OFFICER OF VISITING USN SHIP, THAT HE HAS "ABSOLUTELY NO OBJECTION" TO CONTINUED USE OF SEYCHELLES AIRPORT BY USAF AND USN AIRCRAFT.

2. SUBJECT AROSE DURING DISCUSSION OF NUMBER OF TOPICS INCLUDING US/SOVIET TALKS ON INDIAN OCEAN (STATE 142360). I FELT OUR CONVERSATION DEVELOPED IN PARTICULARLY POSITIVE WAY AND USED OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW BILATERAL UNDERSTANDING ON SHIPS AND AIRCRAFT VISITS WHICH PERTAINED DURING PREVIOUS REGIME. RENE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE HAD RECENTLY BEEN INFORMED OF PLANNED JUNE 7 P-3 AIRCRAFT VISIT AND SAID U.S. COULD "CARRY ON JUST AS BEFORE." IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, I TOLD RENE THAT VISITS BY US NAVY OR AIR FORCE PLANES WOULD BE FOR PRIMARY PURPOSES OF REFUELING AND CREW REST AND MIGHT REQUIRE AIRCRAFT TO REMAIN OVERNIGHT. ON THIS POINT ALSO, RENE GAVE HIS UNQUALIFIED CONCURRENT.

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3. RENE THEN REQUESTED, IN ADDITION TO SUBMISSION OF DIPLOMATIC NOTE REQUESTING CLEARANCE FOR EACH PROPOSED VISIT, THAT I ORALLY INFORM MINISTER OF STATE FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS BERLOUIS OF DATES WHEN EACH VISIT WOULD TAKE PLACE. REASON FOR THIS WAS TO AVOID ANY "MISUNDERSTANDING". (COMMENT: THIS, I BELIEVE, WAS REFERENCE TO LAST MINUTE INTRA-GOVERNMENTAL

CONFUSION WHICH AROSE LAST WEEK OVER THE CLEARED ARRIVAL OF
LOCKHEED ELECTRA ON PROJECT MONEX MISSION.)

4. ACTION REQUESTED: IN VIEW PRESIDENT RENE APPROVAL OF US
MILITARY AIRCRAFT VISITS, RECOMMEND INITIAL P-3 VISIT TAKE
PLACE AT EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY CONSONANT WITH OPERATIONAL
REQUIREMENTS.
MATTSON

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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